In the Claims:

1. (Original) A manifold comprising:

an elongate tubular body having a first longitudinal port and an opposing second longitudinal port for providing fluid flow through the body along a longitudinal axis thereof, the elongate tubular body having at least one effluent retention portion and at least one conduit portion formed therein, the conduit portion having a girth less that of the retention portion;

a first transverse port positioned between the first and second longitudinal ports for providing a transverse fluid flow from the at least one effluent retention portion, the first transverse port having an axis within a plane of and generally orthogonal to the longitudinal axis;

a second transverse port positioned between the first transverse port and at least one of the first and second longitudinal ports for providing a second transverse fluid flow from a second retention portion of the at least one retention portion, the second transverse port having an axis within the plane of the generally orthogonal to the longitudinal axis; and

opposing first and second ribs extending outwardly from an outside surface of the conduit portion of the tubular body, wherein the first and second ribs radially extend from the longitudinal axis are orthogonal to the plane having the transverse port axes and longitudinal axis therein.

2. (New) A manifold according to claim 1, wherein each of the ports is closed, and wherein a cut is made in the manifold for opening a selected one of the ports for permitting fluid flow therethrough.

3. (New) A manifold according to claim 1, wherein the first and second ports are centered about a longitudinal axis of the elongate tubular body.

4. (New) A manifold according to claim 1, wherein at least one effluent retention portion comprises three effluent retention portions, and wherein two of the three effluent retention portions each have the first transverse port extending therefrom for directing fluid flow into the first transverse direction and the second transverse port extending from the third effluent retention portion for directing flow into the second transverse direction, which second direction radially opposes the first direction.

5. (New) A manifold according to claim 4, wherein a top plan view thereof comprises a mirror image of a bottom plan view thereof.

6. (New) A manifold according to claim 1, wherein the first and second longitudinal ports comprise male and female connections for connecting to a second manifold having a similar form thereto.

7. (New) a manifold comprising:

an elongate tubular body having a first longitudinal port and an opposing second longitudinal port for providing fluid flow therethrough, the elongate tubular body having at least one effluent retention portion and at least one conduit portion formed therein, the conduit portion having a girth less than that of the retention portion;

a first transverse port positioned between the first and second longitudinal ports for providing a transverse fluid flow from the elongate tubular body in a first transverse direction;

a second transverse port positioned between the fist and second longitudinal ports for providing a second transverse fluid flow from the elongate tubular body in a second transverse direction; and

a rib extending outwardly from an outside surface of the conduit portion of the tubular body orthogonally to a plane having an axis of at least one transverse port and the longitudinal axis therein.

8. (New) A manifold according to claim 7, wherein each of the ports is closed, and wherein a cut is made in the manifold for opening a selected one of the ports for permitting fluid flow therethrough.

9. (New) A manifold according to claim 7, wherein at least one of the first and second transverse ports extends from the at least one effluent retention portion.

10. (New) A manifold according to claim 7, wherein the rib comprises opposing first and second ribs radially extending from the elongate tubular body along the longitudinal axis.

11. (New) A manifold according to claim 7, wherein the first and second ports are centered about a longitudinal axis of the elongate tubular body.

12. (New) A manifold according to claim 11, wherein axes of the first and second transverse ports lie within a single plane of and are generally orthogonal to the longitudinal axis.

13. (New) A manifold according to claim 7, wherein the at least one effluent retention portion comprises three effluent retention portions, and wherein two of the three effluent retention portions each have the first transverse port extending therefrom for directing fluid flow into the first transverse direction and the second transverse port extending from the third effluent retention portion for directing flow into the second transverse direction, which second direction radially opposes the first direction.

14. (New) A manifold according to claim 13, wherein the second transverse port is positioned between the two first transverse ports.

15. (New) A manifold according to claim 13, wherein the rib comprises opposing first and second ribs radially extending from the elongate tubular body along the longitudinal axis.

16. (New) A manifold according to claim 15, wherein a top plan view thereof comprises a mirror image of a bottom plan view thereof.

17. (New) A manifold according to claim 7, wherein the first and second longitudinal ports comprise a male and a female connection respectively for connecting to a second manifold having a similar form thereto.

18. (New) A manifold according to claim 7, further comprising a septic tank pipe connected to the first transverse port and a drain filed pipe connected to the second transverse port for providing fluid flow therebetween.

19. (New) A manifold comprising:

a tubular body having an input port and an opposing output port, and an enlarged girth portion extending at least partially therebetween;

a transverse port extending from the enlarged girth portion; and

a rib outwardly extending from the tubular body at a location removed from the enlarged girth portion.

20. (New) A manifold according to claim 19, wherein a longitudinal axis through a center of the input and output orts is orthogonal to a transverse axis passing through a center of the transverse port.

21. (New) A manifold according to claim 19, wherein the rib comprises opposing first and second ribs radially extending from the elongate tubular body.

22. (New) A manifold according to claim 19, wherein the transverse port includes at least three transverse ports, and wherein a central axis for each of the at least transverse ports lies with a plane including a central longitudinal axis of the tubular body.

23. (New) A manifold according to claim 19, wherein the rib comprises opposing first and second ribs radially extending from the tubular body.